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EXAMINER

RIOS CUEVAS, ROBERTO JOSE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2836

DATE MAILED: 09/13/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/613,392

Applicant(s)

RICKS, JOE

Examiner

Roberto J. Rios

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                      4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                      5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.                      6) ☐ Other:

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Objections***

1. Claim 17 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 5 of the claim the word "supply" must be inserted after the first occurrence of the word "power". Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-6, 10, and 12-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Campbell et al (Us patent 5,437,040).

As per claim 1, Campbell et al (herein after Campbell) teach a system comprising a power supply (17) configured to provide a standby signal (12SB), wherein the power supply is further configured to receive a power up signal (DCON); and a delay circuit (22) coupled to receive the standby signal, wherein the delay circuit is configured to provide the power up signal to the power supply after a predetermined delay in response to receiving the standby signal (col. 5, line 28- col. 6, line 21).

As per claim 2, Campbell teaches a stabilizer circuit coupled between the standby signal and the power up signal, wherein the stabilizer circuit is configured to provide a stable transition in the receipt of the power up signal (col.14, lines 13-35; lines 57-65).

As per claim 3, Campbell teaches an integrated circuit coupled to receive the standby signal from the power supply (Figures 1, 5).

As per claim 4, Campbell teaches a detection circuit (22) configured to receive a standby signal (12SB) from a power supply (Figure 1), wherein the detection circuit is configured to deliver a control signal (from A/D converter), and a delay circuit (144) coupled to receive the control signal, wherein the delay circuit is configured to deliver a delayed control signal for the power supply in response to the control signal after a predetermined period of time (col. 11, lines 34-47; col. 14, lines 13-35; lines 57-65).

As per claim 5, Campbell teaches a stabilizer circuit (Figures 3, 4) configured to receive the standby signal (12SB) and to receive the delayed control signal (DCON), wherein the stabilizer circuit is further configured to provide the delayed control signal to the power supply to ensure a stable transition during the receipt of the delayed control signal by the power supply (col.9, line 3; col. 10, lines 24-58).

As per claim 6, Campbell teaches the power supply coupled (Figure 1) to provide the standby signal (12SB) to the detection circuit (22), wherein the power supply is further coupled to receive the delayed control signal (DCON).

As per claims 10 and 12, Campbell teaches a method for providing power to a computer system, the method comprising providing a standby signal (12SB); receiving a power up signal (DCON); delaying the power up signal for a predetermined period of time (R/C on Figure 3); and passing the power up signal to the computer system after delaying the power up signal (col. 14, lines 13-35; col. 57-65).

As per claim 13, Campbell teaches receiving the standby signal (12SB) every time power supply is present or turned on; and outputting the power up signal (DCON) in response to receiving the standby signal.

As per claim 14, Campbell teaches providing a stable transition from inactive to active for a power on signal at a power supply (col.9, line 3; col. 10, lines 24-58).

As per claim 15, Campbell teaches a system comprising means for receiving a power up signal (12SB), means for delaying the power up signal (22), and means for passing the power up signal after delaying the power up signal (Figures 1, 3, and 4).

As per claim 16, Campbell teaches the system further comprising means for receiving the power up signal (DCON) after delaying the power up signal (col. 6, line 15); and means for providing a stable transition from inactive to active for a power on signal at a power supply in response to receiving the power up signal after delaying the power up signal (col. 14, lines 13-35; lines 57-65).

As per claim 17, Campbell teaches a system, comprising an integrated circuit (144), a power supply (17) coupled to provide power to the integrated circuit, wherein the power supply is further configured to provide a standby signal (12SB) to the integrated circuit, wherein the power supply is further configured to receive a power up signal (DCON); a detection circuit (22) coupled to receive the standby signal (Figure 1), wherein the detection circuit is configured to output a power on signal for the power supply in response to receiving the standby signal; a delay circuit (22) coupled to receive the power on signal for the power supply from the detection circuit (Figures 1, 3-5), wherein the delay circuit is configured to output a delayed power on signal for the

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power supply in response to receiving the power on signal after a predetermined period of time; and wherein the delay circuit is configured to provide the delayed power on signal to the power supply as the power up signal once the predetermined period of time has passed since the delay circuit received the power on signal (col. 14, lines 13-35; lines 57-65).

As per claim 18, Campbell teaches a stabilizer circuit coupled between the delay circuit and the power supply, wherein the stabilizer circuit is configured to receive the delayed power oil signal and to provide the delayed power on signal to the power supply for the delay circuit, wherein the stabilizer circuit is further configured to provide a stable transition from inactive to active for the power up signal at a power supply (Figures 1, 3, 4; col. 14, lines 13-35; lines 57-65).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 7-9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Campbell.

As per claim 7, Campbell teaches the claim system except that the standby signal is first detected and then delayed before being outputted to the power supply. However, the Examiner takes official notice that it is well known in the art and would be an engineering design choice to shift the locations of parts or components within an

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invention when the operation of the device would not thereby be modified, In re Japikse, 86 USPQ 70 (CCPA 1950).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Campbell such that the standby signal is first detected and then delayed since it would constitute an engineering design choice that wouldn't modify the operation of the device.

As per claim 8, Campbell teaches a stabilizer circuit (Figures 3, 4) configured to receive the standby signal (12SB) and to receive the delayed control signal (DCON), wherein the stabilizer circuit is further configured to provide the delayed control signal to the power supply to ensure a stable transition during the receipt of the delayed control signal by the power supply (col.9, line 3; col. 10, lines 24-58).

As per claim 9, Campbell teaches the power supply providing the standby signal and receiving a delayed control signal.

As per claim 11, Campbell teaches the power supply unit providing a 12VSB signal from the power supply but does not specifically disclose a 5VSB standby signal. However, the Examiner takes official notice that it is well known in the Computer power supply art to provide a constant 5VSB standby signal. Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Campbell such that the standby signal is a 5VSB signal for the purpose of adapting the computer system to a 20-pin connector ATX power supply unit.

6. Art of general nature relating to power on delay has been cited for applicant's review.


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***Allowable Subject Matter***

7. Claim 19 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

**Communication with PTO**

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roberto Rios whose telephone number is (703) 306-5518. In the event that Examiner Rios cannot be reached, his supervisor, Brian Sircus may be contacted at (703) 308-3119. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 305-3432.

  
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